

Issues and Opportunities

1.1 Introduction

Population plays an important role in how the community develops. Observing population increases and decreases helps for future needs in the town. In this element you will see the historical population and projections, along with the demographics, household characteristics, employment, income, and education; all of which affect the community.

1.2 Population

Historical Population

The town of Trempealeau population has increased more than decreased since the 1960 census. The only decrease from 1960 to 2000 was in the 1990 census. The largest increase in the 1980 census was 422 people to have a total population of 1, 504. Table 1.1 shows the population for the past 40 years.

Table 1.1: Historical Population 1960-2000				
1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
1,044	1,082	1,504	1,341	1,618

Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission

Population Projections

The town of Trempealeau population projections were prepared by the Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission (MRRPC) through the year 2025. Table 1.2 shows the projections for the town. The MRRC show an increase in the population.

Table 1.2: Population Projections 2010-2025			
2010	2015	2020	2025
1,860	1,979	2,098	2,205

Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission

Factors Affecting Population Change

Factors affecting population change may be the rural area of Trempealeau but close to larger cities, the sale of large tracts of land by farmers and others, companies moving into the area and also those moving out. There are many causes for the fluctuation of population that cannot all be listed here. The above population projections show projections from the population counts that have occurred in the past.

1.3 Age Distribution and Demographic Trends

Summary of Demographic Classes

Table 1.3 shows the ages of persons in 1990 and 2000 along with the percent change from those dates. The age category that grew the most in absolute numbers was 45 to 54. The age category that decreased the most in absolute numbers was 25 to 34.

Table 1.3

Age Category	1990 Census	2000 Census	Change in Absolute Numbers: 1990-2000	Percent Change 1990-2000
Under 5	107	85	-22	-21%
5 to 14	229	241	+12	+5%
15 to 24	179	190	+11	+6%
25 to 34	223	173	-50	-22%
35 to 44	213	302	+89	+42%
45 to 54	134	266	+132	+99%
55 to 64	109	179	+70	+64%
65 to 74	90	112	+22	+24%
75 to 84	49	54	+5	+10%
85 and over	8	16	+8	+100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

1.4 Household Characteristics

In the 2000 Census the Town of Trempealeau had 623 total households. Of those 623, 459 (73.7%) were family households and 164 (26.3%) were nonfamily households. The average household size for Trempealeau is 2.60 persons. This is higher than the county average of 2.45 persons.

Household Trends

By studying the household trends one can see the wide range between family households and nonfamily households. There are 444 family households. Of those 444 households, 39.2% of them are married couples with children under 18 years old. Those households with one adult and children under 18 years old represent 4.3% of the family households. Table 1.4 shows the household characteristics for the Town of Trempealeau.

Table 1.4: Household Characteristics

	Total	Percent of all Households
Total Households	613	100.0%
Family Households	392	6.4%
Married-couple family	174	28.4%
Married-couple family with children	218	35.6%
Other family	52	8.5%
Male Householder	23	3.7%
Male Householder with children	13	2.1%
Female Householder	29	4.7%
Female Householder with children	6	1.0%

Nonfamily Households	28	4.6%
Male Householder	24	3.9%
Female Householder	4	0.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Household Projections

Table 1.5 shows the household projections for the Town of Trempealeau through the year 2025.

Housing Units Table 1.5.

	Census	Census	Census	Est. Census	Projected	Projected	Projected	Projected
Jurisdiction	1980	1990	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Town of Trempealeau	599	582	707	812	914	1,016	1,118	1,220

Source: Mississippi River Regional Planning Commission 2001 Overall Economic Development Program.
Projections prepared by the Trempealeau County Zoning Department.

1.5 Employment, Income, and Poverty Statistics

Employment Characteristics

In the Town of Trempealeau 28.4% of the labor force is employed by the manufacturing sector. The second sector is the educational, health and social service sector with 16.5%.

Table 1.6: Employed Civilian Population 16 years and Older

INDUSTRY		
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	72	8.2
Construction	61	6.9
Manufacturing	251	28.4
Wholesale trade	26	2.9
Retail trade	82	9.3
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	43	4.9
Information	23	2.6
Finance, insurance, real estate, and rental and leasing	18	2.0
Professional, scientific, management, administrative, and waste management services	28	3.2
Educational, health and social services	146	16.5
Arts, entertainment, recreation, accommodation and food services	84	9.5
Other services (except public administration)	26	2.9
Public administration	23	2.6

Source: Census Bureau

Trempealeau County Employment Forecasts

Employment forecasts for Western Wisconsin Workforce Development Area include Buffalo, Crawford, Jackson, Juneau, LaCrosse, Monroe, Trempealeau, and Vernon

counties. This projection was developed by the Department of Workforce Development August in 2006. The estimated employment for 2004 for all occupations was 136,640 which forecasts to 152,080 in 2014. The estimated average annual opening for new jobs was 1,540, and a replacement was 3,340. This would total to 4,880, according to the Department of Workforce Development.

Occupational Categories

Most employed residents in the Town of Trempealeau, according to the Census 2000, work in management, professional, and related occupations. Table 1.7 shows occupation type for the Town of Trempealeau.

Table 1.7: Occupations 2000 – Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over

Occupation	Number
Management, professional, and related occupations	269
Service Occupations	127
Sales and office occupations	172
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	15
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	83
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	217
Total	883

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Household Income

Table 1.87 shows that in the Town of Trempealeau the group with an annual income of \$50,000-\$99,999 is the highest group in the table. The percentage of households with that income is 36.9%. The percentage of households with an annual income of \$25,000-\$49,999 is 33.6%.

1.8: Household Income

Annual Income	Number of Households	Percent of Households
Less than \$10,000	52	8.5%
\$10,000 - \$14,999	20	3.3%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	69	11.3%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	206	33.6%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	226	36.9%
\$100,000 and greater	40	6.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Median Income, Per Capita, and Poverty Level

The median income for the Town of Trempealeau was \$45,179 in 2000 according to the Census Bureau. This is higher than Trempealeau County and the State’s median income. Looking at table 1.9 you will see that the Town of Trempealeau’s percent of inhabitants below poverty level is 5.2%.

Table 1.9

	Town of Trempealeau	Trempealeau County	State of Wisconsin
Median Household Income	\$45,179	\$37,889	\$43,791
Per Capita Income	\$20,039	\$17,681	\$21,271
Percent of inhabitants below poverty level	5.2%	8.3%	8.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Trempealeau County Labor Force

Labor force is the population of employed or unemployed citizens 16 years and older. Below in the table is the labor force data for Trempealeau County compiled by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, November 2004. Notice the unemployment rate from 1998 to 2003 rose 2%.

Table 1.10: Trempealeau County Civilian Labor Force

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Labor Force	14,462	13,874	14,637	14,979	14,917	14,970
Employed	13,845	13,353	13,393	14,119	14,007	14,032
Unemployed	617	521	674	860	910	938
Unemployment Rate	4.3%	3.8%	4.6%	5.7%	6.1%	6.3%

Source: Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development

1.6 Educational Attainment

The table below shows the educational attainment of residents aged 25 and older for the Town of Trempealeau. There are 1,094 residents aged 25 and older, those with a high school diploma are 34.7%. Some of those residents (21.2%) went on to college but did not receive a degree.

Table 1.11

Highest Level of Education Attained	Number of Residents Aged 25 and Older	Percent of Town of Trempealeau Residents 18 Years and Older
Less than 9 th Grade	63	5.2%
9 th – 12 th Grade, No Diploma	86	7.2%
High School Diploma	417	34.7%
Some College, No Degree	255	21.2%
Associate Degree	124	10.3%
Bachelor’s Degree	114	9.5%
Graduate or Professional Degree	35	2.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

1.7 Overall Goal Statement

The Town of Trempealeau's traditions are rooted in agriculture and its rural character. It is therefore the goal of the Town to preserve and enhance these qualities. In addition to maintaining the rural atmosphere and preserving the prime agricultural land, the Town will work to protect and improve the health, safety and welfare of residents, while preserving and enhancing the quality of life for residents when promoting future growth.